

Cleaning up the Remaining 300 Area Facilities

U.S. Department of Energy - Washington State Department of Ecology - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



The U.S. Department of Energy, Washington State Department of Ecology, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Tri-Party agencies) would like your input on the *Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis #3 for the 300 Area*, DOE/RL-2005-87. The EE/CA evaluates alternatives for cleanup and demolition of facilities at the Hanford Site 300 Area.

Background

The 300 Area of the Hanford Site was constructed and operated as a reactor fuel fabrication and laboratory complex. The facilities addressed within the scope of this action housed many of the site's research and development (R&D) projects to support national defense and energy research.

The R&D mission of the 300 Area expanded in the 1970's to include waste management, biological sciences, and environmental sciences. In connection with all of these activities, chemical process laboratories, test reactors, and numerous ancillary structures were constructed to support activities in the 300 Area.

This EE/CA presents the results of an evaluation of three removal action alternatives for the disposition of

approximately 145 facilities (buildings and structures), which are primarily located in the southern portion of the 300 Area of the Hanford Site (south of Apple Street).

These buildings have been grouped together because they are largely in the same geographical area.

The U. S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office has determined that the facilities have no further use beyond their current mission. The potential threat of release of hazardous substances in the facilities poses a substantial risk to human health and the environment.

What is an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis?

An Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) evaluates feasible and cost-effective alternatives for proposed removal actions, and recommends a specific removal action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA).

A Removal Action is a discrete, short-term action taken to protect public health, welfare or the environment from an actual or potential release of hazardous substances. The removal action proposed for 300 Area Facilities is not time critical. This EE/CA identifies and evaluates three removal action alternatives, and recommends a given alternative for the facilities.

Public Comment

The Tri-Party agencies want your feedback on the 300 Area EE/CA.

The public comment period is
August 28 – September 29, 2006.

What Cleanup Actions were Evaluated?

The removal action for the 300 Area Facilities must protect human health and the environment and meet the removal action objectives identified in the evaluation.

Based on these criteria, the following removal alternatives were evaluated:

No Action

The no action alternative assumes all short-term and long-term maintenance of the facilities is terminated and the facilities are locked to prevent entry. No other specific controls would be established for the facilities.

Long-term Surveillance and Maintenance

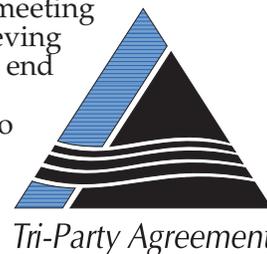
The long-term surveillance and maintenance alternative includes an extended period of facility monitoring with major and minor repairs as necessary, followed by eventual deactivation, decontamination, decommissioning, and demolition (collectively referred to as D4) of the facilities. All contaminated materials and demolition debris would be transported to the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility or other facility for disposal in accordance with their waste acceptance criteria. Where feasible, some materials may be segregated and recycled.

Deactivation, Decontamination, Decommissioning, and Demolition

This Alternative consists of deactivation and decontamination, followed by decommissioning and structure demolition and includes associated waste disposal of the contaminated debris. This alternative also includes surveillance and maintenance of the facilities until demolition activities have been completed.

What is the Preferred Alternative?

The Tri-Party agencies have selected deactivation, decontamination, decommissioning, and demolition. This alternative is recommended based on its overall ability to protect human health and the environment and its effectiveness in maintaining protection for both the short-term and the long-term. This alternative would also reduce the potential for a release by reducing the inventory of contaminants. This alternative provides the best balance of protecting human health and the environment, protecting workers, meeting the removal action objectives, achieving cost effectiveness, and providing an end state that is consistent with future cleanup actions and commitments to the *Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order*. The estimated cost for the recommended alternative is \$256,310,680.



Tri-Party Agreement

How you may become involved

The 30-day public comment period of the 300 Area Facilities EE/CA is August 28, 2006 – September 29, 2006. The Tri-Party agencies would like your feedback on this document and will consider all comments before finalizing it. This document can be viewed online during the comment period at www.hanford.gov/public/calendar

To request a copy of the document, or to submit comments in a written or electronic format, please contact:



Rudy Guercia

U.S. Department of Energy

P.O. Box 550 (A3-04)

Richland, WA 99352

Phone: (509) 376-5494

Fax: (509) 373-0726

e-mail: Rudolph_F_Rudy_Guercia@RL.gov

At this time, no public meeting has been scheduled for the 300 Area Facilities EE/CA. To request a meeting, please contact Rudy Guercia above, on or before September 8, 2006.

The document is also available for review at the Public Information Repositories listed below.

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FACT SHEET

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
309 Bradley Blvd., Suite 115
Richland, WA 99352